

# The South Florida Water Management District LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS



April 2010

## In Your Region

### Meet Our New Governing Board Member

*Glenn Waldman, Governing Board Member, At-Large*

In March, Governor Crist appointed Glenn Waldman to the South Florida Water Management District (District) Governing Board. This seat was previously held by Michael Collins and serves as an at-large member representing Broward, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties.

Mr. Waldman, 49, of Weston, is the founder and managing shareholder with Waldman Trigoboff Hildebrandt Marx & Calnan, P.A. As an arbitrator, mediator and commercial litigation attorney, his legal expertise and practice involves environmental, land use, real estate and complex commercial matters. He received his bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Florida.

### Governor Crist and Officials Tour St. Lucie River



On March 18, Governor Charlie Crist, Florida Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Michael Sole, SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Eric Buermann, SFWMD Governing Board member Kevin Powers, Martin County Board of County Commissioners, City of Sewall's Point Mayor and River's Coalition members toured the St. Lucie River.

### Heavy Rains Help Fill the Seats at "Know the Flow" Seminar

In February, District staff and Martin County Engineer Don Donaldson helped Treasure-Coast property owners and managers "Know the Flow," which includes ways to prevent or reduce flooding and improve water quality. The service center seminar included other topics such as water use, neighborhood preserve area maintenance, stormwater maintenance and permitting responsibilities of homeowner associations.

The un-named December storm event that dropped more than twelve inches of rain in one day within the Tradition development was still fresh on the audience's mind.

Several members of the audience were from the Lake Charles community of St. Lucie West, which recently took over operation of the community's storm water management system with the guidance of Guy Boisclair, a professional in the Service Center's Permit Compliance section. They were quick to point out how much help Mr. Boisclair was during the transfer of their system. Contact Gardenia Long at [glong@sfwmd.gov](mailto:glong@sfwmd.gov) for "Know the Flow" information.



**Kevin Powers**  
Governing Board  
Member



**Glenn J. Waldman**  
Governing Board  
Member



**Jayne Bergstrom**  
Martin/St. Lucie  
Service Center Director



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## Project Progress



### **Moore's Creek Retrofit Project, Phases 3 & 4 in the City of Ft. Pierce**

Moore's Creek was designed in the 1920s to provide drainage for the northern section of Fort Pierce into the Indian River Lagoon. The Creek's 2,382-acre basin lies between the Indian River Lagoon on the east, 45th Street on the west, the District's C-25 Canal on the north and Ohio Avenue on the south. This drainage basin is mostly contained in the City of Fort Pierce, with some western portions located in St. Lucie County.

The Moore's Creek Retrofit Project benefits the Indian River Lagoon and its basin by improving the quality of the surface water discharge into the Indian River Lagoon; by raising the water table elevations within

the drainage basin to enhance groundwater recharge; and by improving drainage for certain areas that are prone to flooding within the existing system.

### **Eastern Watershed Improvement Project in the City of Port St. Lucie**

The City of Port St. Lucie Eastern Watershed is located east of the north Fork of the St. Lucie River; west of the Savannahs State Preserve; and south of the Spanish Lakes mobile home park. The Eastern Watershed includes the Howard Creek Drainage Basin, the Midport Drainage Basin, the Eastport Phase 1/Tiffany Drainage Basin and the Eastport Phase 2/Blackwell Drainage Basin.

The Eastern Watershed Improvement Project is a water quality and flood protection stormwater retrofit improvement for the Eastern Watershed drainage basins that address severe flooding experienced during Tropical Storm Fay in 2008, Hurricane Wilma in 2005 and Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne in 2004.

Improvements will provide enhanced flood protection for the existing residential and commercial developments to resolve recurring drainage and flood control problems in the Eastern Watershed. Project components include construction of Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs); installation of outfall structures to control drainage discharges; and construction of storm sewer and pump station improvements to provide drainage system redundancy. These improvements will restore hydraulic capacity, improve water quality and attenuate stormwater flows discharging to the North Fork of the St. Lucie River. For additional information, please contact Kathy LaMartina at [klamart@sfwmd.gov](mailto:klamart@sfwmd.gov)

## Everglades Restoration Update

### **Northern Estuaries Benthic Mapping**

SFWMD staff accompanied the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) contractor on the St. Lucie Estuary in Martin County to kick off the Northern Estuaries Benthic Mapping project and begin instrument calibration. Benthic (bottom) mapping of the four northern estuaries—St. Lucie Estuary, Loxahatchee River Estuary, Lake Worth Lagoon and Caloosahatchee River Estuary—is being conducted as part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. The Corps' work is being funded by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009 funds.

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## **Annual Tour of the Loxahatchee River Management Coordinating Council**



The Loxahatchee River Management Coordinating Council toured the Corbett Pal-Mar hydroperiod restoration components of the North Palm Beach – Part 1 Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) in late January. Project Manager Beth Kacvinsky and staff from the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resource Management and the Martin County Engineering Department provided council members with an on-site update of the restoration efforts for Cypress Creek. Activities include restoring the historic flow of the Cypress Creek canal, eradication of exotics, ditch filling and exotic vegetation management.

## **25th Anniversary of the National Wild and Scenic River**

On May 17, 1985, the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River was designated a national “Wild and Scenic” river. Through the past 25 years, great accomplishments in land acquisition, restoration and management of the river system have been made. A 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will be held on May 15. For a listing of activities, please contact Jocelyn O’Neill at [jocelyn@loxahatcheeriver.org](mailto:jocelyn@loxahatcheeriver.org) or contact Gardenia Long at [glong@sfwmd.gov](mailto:glong@sfwmd.gov)

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## **Waiting for Your Invitation**

The South Florida Water Management District has many projects, programs and partnerships in the Treasure Coast. It would be our pleasure to meet with your organization to give a presentation and answer questions regarding the District and our mission.

If interested, please contact Gardenia Long at (772) 223-2600, x3617 or Jayne Bergstrom at (772) 223-2600, x3602.

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# Out and About

- **Water Resources Advisory Commission (WRAC) Monthly Meeting**  
May 2, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
SFWMD B-1 Auditorium, 3310 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach
- **St. Lucie County Elementary Science Expo**  
May 8
- **SFWMD Governing Board Meeting**  
May 12 and 13  
Blake Library, 2351 SE Monterey Road, Stuart
- **WRAC Issues Workshop - *River of Grass* Project Planning Phase II**  
May 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
John Boy Auditorium, 1200 South Owens Ave., Clewiston
- **WRAC Lake Okeechobee Committee Meeting**  
May 26, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
City of St. Cloud, Lakefront Park & Marina, 1104 Lakeshore Blvd., St. Cloud
- **WRAC Monthly Meeting**  
June 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
North Miami Leisure Services Dept., McDonald Center 17051 NE 19<sup>th</sup> Ave., North Miami Beach
- **SFWMD Governing Board Meeting**  
June 8 and 9  
SFWMD B-1 Auditorium, 3310 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach
- **WRAC Issues Workshop - *River of Grass* Project Planning Phase II**  
June 17, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
SFWMD B-1 Auditorium, 3310 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach
- **WRAC Recreation Issues Workshop**  
June 21, 5 p.m.-8 p.m.  
SFWMD B-1 Auditorium, 3310 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach